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BOROUGH OF FLEETWOOD.

ANNUAL REPORT

1945.

by

J.Colgan, M.D.,B.Ch.,B.A.O.

Medical Officer of Health.

including
details of the work of the
Sanitary Inspector.

Members of the Health Committee.

His Worship the Mayor:
Councillor A. Wilkinson.

Chairman:
Councillor W. Minns.

Aldermen:

H.Blackburn
T.Clegg
P.McNicholas,M.B.E.
C.Saer,T.D.,C.C.
W.E.Simpson,M.B.E.
W.H.Thompson

Councillors:

Mrs.J.Atherton
W.F.Betney
W.A.Eccles
R.Fleming
J.I.Kennedy
R.Knowles
E.A.Lawrence
C.F.Lofthouse
T.Roberts
F.D.Rowland
J.W.Robinson
Mrs.M.E.Rowntree
J.Shaw
W.Ward
A.W.Warman
F.Wilkinson

Town Clerk.
Alan Smith

Medical Officer of Health and Port Health Officer:

J.Colgan, M.D.,B.Ch.,B.A.O.

Chief Sanitary Inspector (Borough & Port) and Cleansing Superintendent:

P.J.Fisher, M.R.San.I.,M.S.I.A.

Additional Inspectors:

E.Whitehead, A.R.San.I.,M.S.I.A.,
H.Waddicar, M.R.San.I.,M.S.I.A.,
H.Bland, C.R.San.I. (Temporary)
A.Bradshaw, (Until March,1945)
F.Hesketh, C.R.San.I. (Returned from H.M.Forces, April,1945)

Public Health Office,
Copse Road,
Fleetwood.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Fleetwood.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to present my twenty-third Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the District during the year ending 31st,December,1945, combined with the report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector. In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health this will take the form of an interim report.

Section A.Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area: Land,2,336 acres;Foreshore and Sea 3,644 acres.
Population: 23,810 (as per Registrar-General's estimate,mid 1945)
No.of inhabited houses end of 1945 according to rate books: 6,354
Rateable value: £170,846. Sum represented by a 1d.rate: £687

		Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births:	Legitimate	360	178	182)	Birth rate per 1,000
	Illegitimate	34	14	20)	estimated resident population mid 1945" 16.5
Stillbirths:		9	7	2	
Deaths:		305	164	141	Death rate per 1,000 12.8

Deaths from Puerperal causes: Nil.

Death rate of infants under 1 year of age:

All infants per 1,000 live births...	55
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births...	50
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	117

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)...	49
" " Measles(" ")...	-
" " Whooping Cough (all ages).	1
" " Diarrhea (under two years of age)	2

Causes of death during the year 1945:

Whooping Cough	1
Diphtheria	2
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	13
Influenza	1
Cancer (all forms)	49
Diabetes	3
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	39
Heart Disease	100
Other diseases of circulatory system	3
Bronchitis	13
Pneumonia	3
Other respiratory diseases	1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum..	1
Diarrhea (under two years)	2
Other digestive diseases	10
Nephritis	8
Premature birth	9
Conjenital malformations etc..	8
Road traffic accidents..	2
Other violent causes	3
All other causes	34

Section C. Sanitary Circumstances of the area.

Water Supply.

Is upland water, obtained from the Fylde Water Board, and is of good quality.

During the year two samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and one for chemical examination. The results in all cases were satisfactory. In addition the Fylde Water Board forward copies of reports on samples taken monthly.

Closet Accommodation.

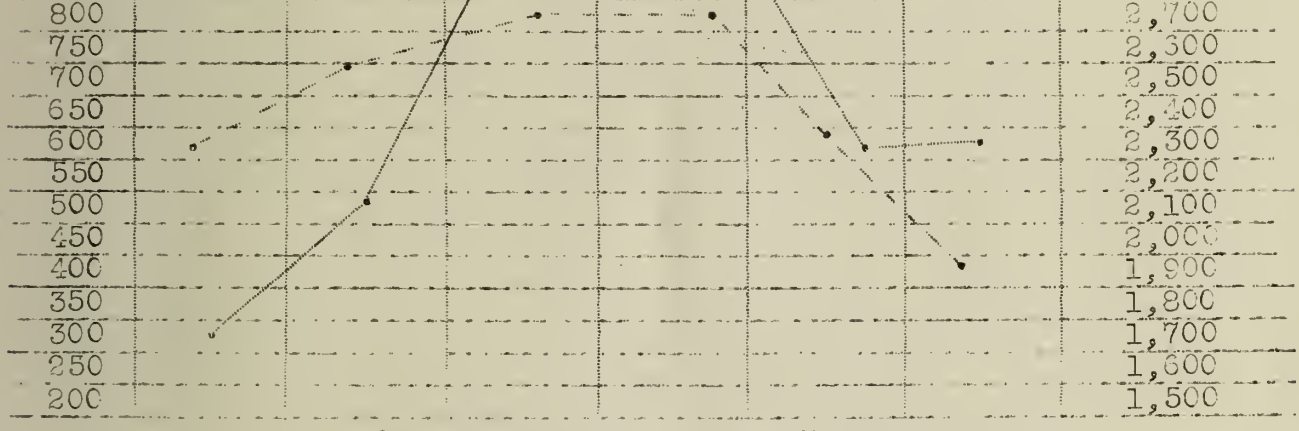
The whole area, with the exception of some isolated houses, is on the water carriage system.

Refuse Collection, Year Ending 31st.March,1946.

Dustbins emptied...	336,698
Pail closets emptied	2,546
Loads of Trade Refuse removed.. ...	1,015
Number of Gullies emptied	7,859
Total loads removed	3,453

Salvage. Weights collected and values:

Graph showing results from 1940 to 1945 inclusive.



Continuous lines show Value
broken lines show Weight.

Year.	Weight in tons.	Value in £.
1940-41	573	1650
1941-42	698	2085
1942-43	805	3014
1943-44	790	3133
1944-45	590	2258
1945-46	400	2285
	3,856	14,426

The salvage of waste materials is continuing, particularly as regards paper, textiles, bones and kitchen waste, but as some items formerly in great demand are no longer required, the amount of materials salvaged is decreasing.

With the end of the war the public generally have become apathetic towards salvage and this too is having an adverse effect on the returns we are enabled to make.

SUMMARY OF VISITS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st.DECEMBER,1945.

Complaints investigated...	374
Re-visits to work ordered or in progress	771
Visits re refuse accommodation..	211
" to yards and passages	33
" " water closets	27
" " defective drains.	271
Drains tested...	8
Owners or agents interviewed	248
Visits to Common Lodging Houses.	15
" re Milk & Dairies Order:	
Milkshops	11
Dairies	74
Cowsheds	12
Milk vehicles..	22
Visits to Public Market	64
" " Bakehouses	62
" " Fish Friers Premises..	19
" re Food Inspection	175
" to premises where Ice Cream is prepared ...	146
" " Fish Curing Houses....	109
" " Fish Meal & Oil Works.	29
" " Factories	48
Smoke observations made	25
Cases of Infectious Disease enquired into... ...	136
Re-visits to cases isolated at home...	148
Visits re Rat Infested premises.	489
" " Pig Keeping	24
" " Refuse Collection & Disposal	216
" " Street Cleansing.	194
" to Public Conveniences	64
" re Overcrowding...	49
" " Verminous Premises	124
" " HCN Fumigation...	24
" " Civil Defence	15
Miscellaneous Visits	968
Shops Acts.	
Number of visits.	89
Housing.	
Number of Houses Inspected	
(a) Under Public Health Acts	397
(b) " Housing Acts	147
Number of Re-inspections	
(a) Under Public Health Acts	256
(b) " Housing Acts...	355
Total ...	6,449

The following table gives a classified list of the nuisances abated and defects remedied during the year:-

Drainage and Pavement.	
Drains cleansed from obstruction...	212
Drains re-laid	5
Soil Pipes repaired	2
Yards paved and repaired	5
Dwellings.	
Floors of dwellings repaired.	1
Dilapidated walls and ceilings repaired.. ...	17
Walls repointed...	16
Roofs repaired	19
Windows repaired..	6
Spouting repaired.	5
Doors repaired	3
New sinks provided	1
Waste pipes repaired	5
Houses cleansed or disinfected	17
Cases of overcrowding abated..	3
Firegrates repaired	8
Washing Boilers repaired	6

Water Closets.

Water Closets reconstructed...	3
" " repaired	17
New pedestals provided...	11
Defective cisterns repaired...	18
New Flushing Cisterns provided.	2
Risers abolished	1
Houses provided with Sanitary Dustbins	481

Various.

Smoke nuisances dealt with	2
Nuisances from animals kept, abated	1
Offensive accumulations removed	7
Bakehouses, Lime Washing carried out	21
Various	12
Total	907

Shops Acts, 1912 to 1936.

During the year 89 visits were made to shop premises under the Acts. On no occasion was it necessary to undertake prosecutions for offences against the Acts.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Verminous houses were sprayed with Lethane, or fumigated with HCN by a firm of contractors. The furniture of all tenants moving into Corporation property is fumigated with HCN by this Department.

Section D. Housing.

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:
   (1)(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)... 544
   (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 1515
   (2)(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932... 147
   (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose... 502
   (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation... ... ... -
   (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation... 245
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:
   Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers... 196
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:
   (a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936
      (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs... ... -
      (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
         (a) By owners... 2
         (b) By local authority in default of owners.. 7
4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.
   (a)(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year... ... ... -
   (11) Number of families dwelling therein. ... .. -
   (111) Number of persons dwelling therein. ... .. -
   (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year... 24
   (c)(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year... 6
   (11) Number of persons concerned in such cas 24

(b) Housing Conditions.

1. The general housing conditions in the Borough are satisfactory.

   There are two back-to-back houses in the district.

2. There is a serious shortage of houses of a working class type. There are over 1,000 recent applications for Corporation houses.

Section E. Inspection and supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.

The Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops have been visited 119 times, and in each case were invariably found to be in a clean condition.

During the year 40 samples were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli, only one of the samples proved positive.

Pasteurised milk was sampled 19 times during the year and submitted for examination at the laboratory. Sixteen of the samples were satisfactory and three unsatisfactory. The samples were submitted to the phosphatase test and also tested for the presence of b.coli.

Ice Cream.

Sixteen samples of Ice Cream were obtained during the year. These were submitted for examination for bacterial count and the presence of b.coli.

Twelve of the samples were unsatisfactory and four satisfactory.

Every effort was made to bring the methods of production up to the required standards under the difficult conditions prevailing.

Meat and Other Foods.

Food shops and food preparation premises were visited 511 times.

Section F. Infectious Diseases.

Deaths from the principal Zymotic Diseases:-

Smallpox...	-
Measles	-
Scarlet Fever	-
Whooping Cough... ...	1
Diphtheria	2
Enteric Fever	-
Diarrhoea	2
	5

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year:-

Diseases.	Cases notified.	Total Deaths.	Cases removed to Hospital.
Scarlet Fever	19	-	18
Diphtheria	88	2	86
Measles	281	-	-
Whooping Cough	79	1	-
Acute Pneumonia	74	3	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	10	-	9
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	1	1
Ophthalmia neonatorum	2	-	1
Erysipelas	2	-	2
Malaria (contracted abroad)	1	-	1
	564	7	118

Tuberculosis.

The number of cases notified was 26 pulmonary and 19 non-pulmonary.

The number of deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis was 13.

The notification of tuberculosis is satisfactory.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Diphtheria immunisation is carried out by means of specially arranged sessions and by private practitioners. During the year 126 pre-school children and 28 school children were immunised.

At 31st.December 1945 it was considered that 77.6 % of the children under five years of age and 71.7 % of the children between five and fifteen years of age were immunised.

In 26 of the cases of Diphtheria occurring the child had completed a full course of immunisation against the disease.

Scabies Treatment.

The treatment of scabies continued at the Copse Road Depot during the year. The following table gives the number of sessions held and the persons attending:-

Sessions held.		Persons attending.	
M.	F.	M.	F.
115	145	130	161

Treatment is carried out by means of hot baths and then an application of Benzyl Benzoate. In the majority of cases two visits were sufficient to effect a cure.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. COLGAN.

Medical Officer of Health.